

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Delete the two paragraphs on page 1, line 20, through page 2, line 19, and replace them with the following two replacement paragraphs:

--On the other hand, a lateral electric field system in which an electric field applied to a liquid crystal is provided in a direction approximately parallel to surfaces of substrates was developed. As an example of this system, the use of a pair of comb-like electrodes in which an electrode providing an electric field approximately in parallel with the surfaces of the electrodes is formed on one of the substrates is disclosed, for example, in Japanese Patent Publication No. 63-21907, U.S. Patent No. 4,345,249, PCT International Application Publication No. 91/10936, Japanese Patent Laid-Open Nos. 6-222397 and 6-160878, and the like. It is unnecessary that the electrodes disclosed in these documents be transparent, and opaque metal electrodes having a high conductivity are used.

In the display system in which the direction of the electric field applied to the liquid crystal is a direction approximately parallel to the surfaces of the substrates as disclosed in the above-mentioned documents, a method for reducing display unevenness present from the outset, such as an edge domain, has been proposed to date in Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 7-159786. However, a construction or the like which is required for eliminating display unevenness occurring in a stress test such as a high-temperature working test or the like and improving a productivity is not described at all.--